by this Ministry for OBC's under which the Central assistance provided to the States is at par with the Central Assistance provided under the Schemes of Pre-matric scholarships to the children of those engaged in unclean occupations, Post matric Scholarships for SCs and STs and Hostels for SC and ST boys and Girls.

Action plan for rehabilitation of PTGs

1979. SHRI RAVULA CHANDRA SEKAR REDDY:
SHRI RUMANDLA RAAMACHANDRAYYA:

Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the action plan formulated for rehabilitation of Primitive Tribal Groups (PTGs) to bring them into the mainstream of tribal society; and

(b) the action taken to protect the rights of the original inhabitants of forests in litigation involving them in view of tribals affected by development projects?

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JUAL ORAM): (a) The action Plans for the development of Primitive Tribal Groups have been prepared by the State Governments and UT Administrations encompassing various programmes in the sectors of agriculture, animal husbandry, small scale and cottage industry, education, health, etc. under the strategy of the Tribal Sub-Plan. From 1998-99, an exclusive Central Sector Scheme for the Development of Primitive Tribal Groups has been in operation, under which cent per cent financial assistance is provided to the States/UTs and Non Governmental Organizations for undertaking activities for the welfare and development of Primitive Tribal Groups.

(b) The State Governments and UT Administrations provide Legal aid and advice to the members of the Scheduled Tribes to protect their rights in court cases. The Central Government also provides financial assistance to the States on a matching basis, for providing legal aid to members of the Scheduled Tribes who are involved in land-related litigation.